



Robert Greene Sterne  
Edward J. Kessler  
Jorge A. Goldstein  
David K.S. Cornwell  
Robert W. Esmond  
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Michele A. Cimbala  
Michael B. Ray  
Robert E. Sokohl  
Eric K. Steffe  
Michael Q. Lee  
Steven R. Ludwig  
John M. Covert  
Linda E. Alcorn  
Robert C. Millonig  
Lawrence B. Bugaisky  
Donald J. Featherstone  
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim  
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.  
Patrick E. Garrett  
Jeffery T. Helvey  
Heidi L. Kraus  
Crystal D. Sayles  
Edward W. Yee  
Albert L. Ferro  
Donald R. Banowitz  
Peter A. Jackman  
Molly A. McCall  
Teresa U. Medler  
Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Kendrick P. Patterson  
Vincent L. Capuano  
Albert J. Fasulo II  
Eldora Ellison Floyd  
W. Russell Swindell

Thomas C. Fiala  
Brian J. Del Buono  
Virgil Lee Beaton  
Reginald D. Lucas  
Kimberly N. Reddick  
Theodore A. Wood  
Elizabeth J. Haanes  
Bruce E. Chalker  
Joseph S. Ostroff  
Frank R. Cottingham  
Christine M. Uhler  
Rae Lynn Pengaman  
Jane Shershenovich  
Lawrence J. Carroll

Senior Counsel  
Samuel L. Fox  
Kenneth C. Bass III

Registered Patent Agents  
Karen R. Markowicz  
Andrea J. Kamage  
Nancy J. Leith  
Joseph M. Conrad III  
Ann E. Summerfield  
Helene C. Carlson  
Gaby L. Longworth  
Matthew J. Dowd  
Aaron L. Schwartz  
Angelique G. Uy  
Boris A. Matvenko  
Mary B. Tung

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\*Admitted only in Texas



March 19, 2002

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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MAR 21 2002  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:  
(202) 371-2560

INTERNET ADDRESS:  
RESMOND@SKGF.COM

Art Unit 1651

Re: U.S. Divisional Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 09/606,314; Filed: June 29, 2000  
For: **Dry Powder Cells and Cell Culture Reagents and Methods of  
Production Thereof**  
Inventors: Fike *et al.*  
Our Ref: 0942.4290005/RWE/D-S

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Reply to Restriction Requirement; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

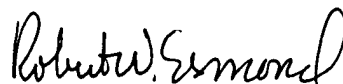
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

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March 19, 2002  
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Robert W. Esmond  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 32,893

RWE/D-S/ayd

Enclosures

P:\USERS\ADORR\0942\429-5 PTO Cover Letter



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Fike *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/606,314

Filed: June 29, 2000

For: **Dry Powder Cells and Cell  
Culture Reagents and Methods of  
Production Thereof**

Confirmation No. 1340

Art Unit: 1651

Examiner: Flood, Michele C.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4290005/RWE/D-S

**Reply To Restriction Requirement**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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In reply to the Office Action dated **February 19, 2002**, requesting an election of one invention to prosecute in the above-referenced patent application, Applicant hereby provisionally elects to prosecute the invention of Group I, represented by claims 27, 36, 37, 39, 44-47, 70, 72 and 92-95. This election is made without prejudice to or disclaimer of the other claims or inventions disclosed.

This election is made **with** traverse.

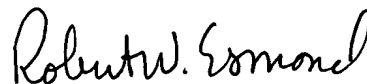
The base claim of Group II (claim 29) features the same limitations of the Group I base claim (claim 27) and the two Groups have commonly assigned claims (claims 36, 70 and 72 appear in both Group I and II). Thus, there is no undue burden on the Examiner to search and examine both Groups I and II. At the very least, if the base claim of Group I is found allowable, the Examiner faces no undue burden to rejoin and examine the claims of Group II.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement, and consideration and allowance of all pending claims, are respectfully requested.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in accompanying documents. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Robert W. Esmond  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 32,893

Date: March 19, 2002

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Suite 600  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
(202) 371-2600